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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 10 February 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a joint statement issued after the political consultations held at Ankara on 9 February 1995 between the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, Mr. Murat Karayalçin, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Irfan Ljubijankic (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Joint statement issued on 9 February 1995 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina held political consultations at Ankara on 9 February 1995.

The two Ministers reviewed the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and exchanged views on the latest developments in the area. They concurred on the necessity to expedite efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of the conflict in view of the available time emanating from the agreement for the cessation of hostilities in Bosnia as well as the decision for the withdrawal of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) from the occupied territories of Croatia.

The two Ministers reiterated their full conviction that the only way to achieve a lasting solution in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as other areas of conflict in the former Yugoslavia, is to ensure the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all the States there within their internationally recognized borders. They further reaffirmed their belief that the Federation constitutes a viable model for the maintenance of a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious society encompassing all the peoples of Bosnia.

They emphasized the significance and substantial contributions of the trilateral consultations to the maintenance and functioning of the Federation as well as the cooperation and harmony it fosters in the region. They expressed their willingness to start the preparations to hold the fifth of the trilateral meetings at Sarajevo.

Recalling the Casablanca declaration on Bosnia and Herzegovina of the seventh summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the two Ministers expressed the urgency for its full implementation and, to that end, agreed to mobilize their efforts.

The Bosnian Minister expressed appreciation, support and trust for Turkey's active participation in the ongoing peace process. The Turkish Minister reiterated his country's long-standing and principled position that Bosnia is a test case for the new order in the Balkans and beyond, and that, as a Balkan country, Turkey is determined to continue to give its full support for respect and implementation of international principles in the region.